

ENDOVASCULAR SPLINTING DEVICES AND METHODS

ABSTRACT

A method for placing a splint assembly transverse a heart chamber includes
5 providing an elongate member having a first end and a second end and a
deployable heart-engaging assembly connected to at least the first end. The
method includes advancing the elongate member through vasculature structure
and into the heart chamber such that the first end of the elongate member
extends through a first location of a wall surrounding the heart chamber and the
10 second end extends through a second location of the heart chamber wall
substantially opposite the first location. A deployable heart-engaging assembly
is deployed such that it engages with a first exterior surface portion of the heart
chamber wall adjacent the first location. The elongate member is secured with
respect to the heart with a second heart-engaging assembly connected to the
15 second end. The second heart-engaging assembly engages with a second
exterior surface portion of the heart chamber wall adjacent the second location.
A splint assembly includes an expandable heart-engaging assembly formed
partially from portions forming the elongate member of the splint assembly. A
delivery tool includes a tubular member configured to be advanced through
20 vasculature structure and has a curved distal end.